GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:950
ANSWERED ON:27.02.2001
REWRITING OF HISTORY
T.M. SELVAGANAPATHI

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the newsitems captioned "Organised bid to rewrite history" appearing in the 'The Hindu" dated January 03, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to see that no alteration is made to the present history;

(d) whether the Indian Council of Historical Research had recently made a comment on the disputed site at Ayodhya; and

(e) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI)

(a) to (e) Government is aware of the fact that a news item appeared in the Hindu on 3rd January 2000, captioned "Organised bid to rewrite history". This news item interalia referred to a statement which appeared in the National Newspapers on 18.12.2000 in the name of Dr. Sushil Kumar Director (Research & Administration), ICHR relating to Ayodhya issue. As informed by ICHR the matter was asked to explain his position for further necessary action. Dr. sushil Kumar informed the Council that he had made no such statement to the Press. A rebuttal of the news item by Dr. Sushil Kumar was also published in the Asian Age dated 22.12.2000.

The Indian Council of Historical Research has also informed that no comment has been made on behalf of the Council in this regard.